

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 of page 1 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph.

A basic requirement for gas purge valves is their ability to effectively and rapidly discharge both large and small quantities of gas whilst, at the same time, being or becoming sealed against liquid discharge. Conventional air purge valves are formed with a gas discharge outlet through which the gas[[s]]es are discharged, but which become sealed against liquid discharge by a float located in a valve housing and which becomes pressed against the outlet so as to seal it with a rising level of liquid in the valve housing.

Also, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 7 of page 3 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph.

According to the present disclosed technology there is provided a gas purge valve comprising a housing formed with an inlet and an outlet, said outlet formed in turn with a valve seating, and a sealing assembly comprising a sealing member displaceable between an open position and a closed position; wherein the sealing assembly is supported by an external support lever (pivotal/support pivotal support arm) mechanism, i.e. extending outside said housing, to thereby displace the sealing assembly into sealing engagement with said valve seating at the closed position.

Also, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 9 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph.

It is further noted in Figs. 5 and 6 that the external support lever 242 extends through an outlet duct 106 extending from the outlet port 230 to an outlet opening 108. If desired, a screen may be fitted at the outlet opening 108 (not shown) to prevent ingress of insects and tampering with the sealing assembly 230-238 (e.g. in a water supply system).

Also, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 10 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph.

The arrangement is such that the support lever 242 is biased in a direction so as to displace the sealing assembly 230 238 into sealing engagement with the valve seating 254 whereby the valve 210 is suitable for use in particular as an air inlet valve, i.e. useful when a fluid conduit is drained, etc. The support lever 242 may be pre-loaded in a variety of different ways, such as, for example, by weights (mass elements or liquid within the housing 212), elastic biasing means, dynamic weights (e.g. liquid chambers), etc.

Also, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 of page 10 of the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph.

It is noted that is also possible to provide a suspending arrangement for delaying motion of the sealing assembly 230 238 into the sealing position. Such suspension may be obtained for example by providing a viscous or visco-elastic damping mechanism or elastic means, to thereby sustain sealing engagement of the sealing assembly 238 with the valve seating 254, to thereby reduce or eliminate hammering. However, it is to be appreciated that dampening means may be provided in addition or without pre-loading of the support lever 242, in any direction (i.e. closing or opening).